

FILED
DEC 20 2016
COMMISSION ON
JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE

INQUIRY CONCERNING
COMMISSIONER TAYLOR CULVER

No. 199

ORDER DISMISSING
PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO
STIPULATED DISPOSITION AND
VACATING HEARING

The Commission on Judicial Performance filed a Notice of Formal Proceedings (Notice) in the inquiry concerning Taylor Culver, Commissioner of the Alameda County Superior Court on October 17, 2016.

A hearing before special masters appointed by the Supreme Court is set to commence in San Francisco on January 23, 2017. On December 12, 2016, former Commissioner Culver, represented by Arthur J. Harris, Esq., and the examiner for the commission, Mark A. Lizarraga, (the parties) submitted a Stipulated Disposition of Pending Proceedings in the above-entitled-matter (Stipulation). Pursuant to the Stipulation, the parties request that the commission dismiss the matter based on former Commissioner Culver's agreement not to seek or hold judicial office, or accept a position or an assignment as a judicial officer, subordinate judicial officer, or judge pro tem with any court in the State of California, or accept a reference of work from any California state court, at any time in the future. In the Stipulation, the former commissioner acknowledges that he resigned his position with the Alameda County Superior Court on November 30, 2016.


The terms and conditions of the Stipulation state that if former Commissioner Culver fails to comply with any of the terms and conditions of the agreement, or seeks or holds judicial office, or accepts a position or an assignment as a judicial officer,

subordinate judicial officer, or judge pro tem with any court in the State of California, or accepts a reference of work from any California state court, at any time in the future, the commission may seek to discipline the former commissioner and may re-institute formal proceedings regarding the matters charged in the Notice. Further, the agreement provides that the terms of the disposition may be made public upon the commission's acceptance of the Stipulation and included in any dispositional order issued by the commission.

By a vote of 9 to 0, the commission determined to accept the Stipulation upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation. Commission members Anthony P. Capozzi, Esq.; Hon. Ignazio J. Ruvolo; Ms. Sarah Krueger Jager; Ms. Patty A. Kasparian; Hon. Thomas M. Maddock; Dr. Michael A. Moodian; Nanci E. Nishimura, Esq.; Mr. Richard Simpson and Mr. Adam N. Torres voted to accept the parties' Stipulation. Commission members Ms. Mary Lou Aranguren and Hon. Erica R. Yew were recused.

Based on the terms and conditions of the Stipulation, the commission hereby dismisses Inquiry No. 199, and agrees not to pursue further the matters charged in the Notice, provided the former commissioner complies with the terms and conditions of the Stipulation. The hearing set for January 23, 2017, is hereby vacated.

Dated: December 20, 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony P. Capozzi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Anthony P. Capozzi
Chairperson